

Application No.: 09/744621

Docket No.: 09879-00017-US

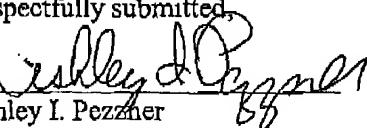
REMARKS

The applicants respectfully request reconsideration in view of the amendment and the following remarks. Claims 16, 17, 19-22, 27, 28, 31, 33, 37 and 38 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Lo et al. U.S. Patent No. 6,358,520, in view of Hasslin U.S. Patent No. 5,674,514. Claims 16-33, 37 and 38 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Jankower et al. EP 0 351 943, in view of Epple et al. U.S. Patent No. 5,376,725. The Examiner has acknowledged that claim 36 is allowable. In order to expedite prosecution the applicants have amended the claims so that all the claims are dependent upon allowed claim 36. For the above reasons, these rejections should be withdrawn.

In view of the above, each of the presently pending claims in this application is believed to be in immediate condition for allowance. Accordingly, the Examiner is respectfully requested to pass this application to issue.

Applicant believes no fee is due with this response. However, if a fee is due, please charge our Deposit Account No. 03-2775, under Order No. 09879-00017-US from which the undersigned is authorized to draw.

Respectfully submitted,

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